

Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes for September 8, 2003

Board members present were Jack Johnson, Scott Smith, Ron Sender, Stephan Miller, Christopher Tonkin, and Ted Packard. Others present were Joey Glushko and Gareth Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM

-We began the meeting by discussing a number of bicycle-related conversations that we have experienced in recent months.

-We talked about the recent Congressional vote restoring funding for alternative forms of transportation to the national transportation budget.

-Final planning for Town Day.

Our table will be dropped off by 8 am as the street is closed at 8:15. Jack, Ron, Christopher, Stephan, Ted and Joey will be available for staffing the table throughout the day. We will have Minuteman Bikeway brochures, a handout explaining the mission of ABAC, MassBike brochures and Road Hog brochures to give out. We will be selling Care Free is Boston, Street Smarts, Rebel Bike Maps and Stephan will pick up some Minuteman Bikeway patches that we will sell on consignment.

TAC plans to set up a table near ours. They will have handouts explaining the Mass. Ave. corridor redesign and some educational displays. They will also be asking citizens to take the Pace Car Pledge.

-Planning next years Bike Rodeo/Alternative Transportation Fair. Scott talked to Kevin Greeley who was very enthusiastic about the idea of an Alternative Transportation Fair. He also talked of Officer John Seerson who is planning the Bike Rodeo. Seerson not enthusiastic about combining the events. We would like to have the Fair during Bike week in May and Seerson feels that June is a more appropriate time for the Rodeo.

The Rodeo is aimed at younger riders and the Fair will be aimed primarily at adults. The events seem complementary but could be held separately. We discussed the possibility of participating in the Rodeo even if it is a separate event.

The overall consensus was that the Fair is a good idea and we should combine it with the annual Tour of Arlington. We now need to find some space and plan a date. Joey suggested the Memorial Ice Rink or the upper parking lot at Symmes. Jack asked about the availability of the Jefferson-Cutter house and the parking lot behind. The last site suggested was the DPW parking lot on Grove St. and the park across the street.

Joey suggested applying for a grant to pay for these activities. Possible grantees would be the Police Department, The Medford Bank or one of the local bike shops.

-Revitalization of Arlington Center. Joey told us that a small bike park is being contemplated for somewhere in The Center. The plans include bike parking, a water bubbler, seating and new banners for the Bike Path. The ideal is to make The Center more bicycle friendly.

-Local Bike Parking. There has been a request from the town of Brookline for information about the bicycle parking warrant article that was proposed by ABAC last year and passed last spring. Jack will give them a copy of the article and also tell them what we learned from the process.

Jack proposed a Bicycle Parking Subcommittee. The warrant article will take care of new larger developments but we need more bike parking in older developments and in front of existing businesses. Those interested in participating in the subcommittee are Scott, Ron and Jack. Rules will have to be formalized for parking on public sidewalks.

-TAC update. Scott gave an update on the design of the Mass. Ave. corridor. CDBG funds have been obtained to fund the design phase. The DPW is trying to finish painting all the sidewalks in town. The painting was delayed because of the wet weather this summer.

-Bikeway maintenance. Stephan reported on the removal of invasive species along the path and also about progress in mapping pavement-edge dropoffs. The subcommittee decided to postpone the survey until the vegetation dies back in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm